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THE STELLA DISASTER.

EXHIBITIONS OF BRAVERY.

TERRIBLE SCENES IN A BOAT.

PATHEPIC FAREWELLS.

ALBANY, Friday.

The N.M.S. Orizaba, which arrived here to-day, brings English life up to the 7th April, from which the following particulars are gleaned respecting the wreck of the Stella.

The Easter holidays were marred by a terrible calamity which befell the Stella on the afternoon of Thursday, 30th March. The steamer was a fine vessel of 1050 tons, and one of the smartest in the Channel Island service. She left Southampton on Thursday morning with 100 passengers, chiefly London excursionists, and a crew of about 100 men.

The vessel was under the command of the ablest officers in the service of the South-Western Railway, was the commander. All went well until late in the afternoon, when, as the outer islands were approached, a mist developed into fog. Believing the fog was merely in banks, the captain decided to run through at full speed.

laughing at the remoteness of some of the passengers, with the result that the vessel ran upon the rocks. At the time those dangerous rocks were supposed to be eight miles off. Suddenly, as though thrown on a screen the awful Caquet rocks appeared right ahead.

The vessel gave the alarm, and the passengers were told to get ready for the worst. The ship was too late to prevent striking. By going hard astern one rock was avoided, but the Stella passed at full speed over the submerged rocks in the vicinity of the Lizard rock, and was ripped open like matchwood. Many passengers were resting in the saloon and others were amusing themselves on deck, but the first impact was followed by a fearful crashing roar, and the metal and woodwork began to topple from their fastenings. Everyone realised the terrible nature of the danger, and turned instinctively to the bridge where the captain stood.

moment's consternation his remarkable coolness and presence of mind inspired his officers and crew to give a noble and inspiring exhibition of courage and seamanship as they were ordered to get ready for the worst.

Just before the captain remarked to a passenger that it was an unfortunate thing that the vessel was wrecked, the captain said to a passenger that it was an unfortunate thing that the vessel was wrecked.

The captain ordered five lifeboats to be launched, and the women and children were first placed in them. The men were then ordered to get into the lifeboats, and the captain ordered five lifeboats to be launched.

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WOMEN'S COLUMN.

A GLIMPSE AT THE NORTH

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CHURCH NEW

DEPUTATIONS.

THE ANIMALS' PROTECTION SOCIETY

About 50 guests accepted invitations of the committee of the Autumn dance at the Agricultural

when Mr. Alexander Virtue, of Parramatta, was married to Miss Ethel Maud Dick, fourth daughter of Mrs. Dick, of Roseberry Cottage, Surry Hills.

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course there was an explanation the measure as embodying the best Transvaal whenever she cares to put forth

course there was an explosion suggested, which was that the other colonies kept dark so and the more safely to plunder the rich and silly colony of New South Wales. At it appears to Dr. MacLaurin, the consequence of federation on the part of the colonies is to bring about ruin, if it were not for the fact that the financial scheme is utterly unworkable, and must break down by its own dead weight of taxation imposed on this colony. In order to render back to the colonies which are supporters of their customs as will entice them to join the way, in order to carry on the transferred services, and in order to provide for the measure as embodying the best practicable terms of federation which it was within the power of the leading public men of Australia to propound. If there is any inconsistency in all this it is hardly the place for the provincials to raise a cause of reproach. They used the Premier's advocacy and influence while these served their turn, and now that he has come back into line with the cause of union again it is hardly graceful of them to use the aid he has given them as a weapon against him. The federalists may have had ground to complain of Mr. Reid's inconsistency, but surely not the anti-federalists.

new expenses of federal government, the Federal Treasurer will require, on Dr. MacLaurin's computation, a customs revenue of about seven and a quarter millions of which he expects to receive 40 per cent; there can be no surplus; but if extravagance is the order of the day in federal affairs, or if it becomes necessary to help the impetuous colonies, then New South Wales must still be the great source of taxation. It comes to this, therefore, that we pay, and the rest of Australia gets the proceeds. By dwelling on these points and on the extravagance of the system of federal finance was calculated to provide for extravagant salaries, and by ignoring equally any possible economies under federation and the safeguards of the proposed constitution, the speaker made out so gloomy a fancy picture of our state under federation as would have sunk the spirits of a Mark

There is no arguing with the facts of the mind of a pessimist. If it pleases anybody to conjure up ideas of disaster to flow from the federation of these colonies, he is welcome to his task. But the majority of people will decline to believe that the statesmen of Australia, and especially the statesmen of New South Wales, design to create a Government which either cannot find money for its purposes or else must exact the bulk of that money from the taxpayers of this colony. Nor can we be blind to the fact that the Federal Governments of Canada and the United States have managed to procure the wherewithal to pay for federal institutions without producing insolvency or insurrection. The fact is, as has been said times out of number, and proved by the wide and irrecon-

ditable support of the Enabling Bill, under which the Federation was discussed and approved of the revival of federation, and then provided for the election on the broadest franchise possible of federal delegates commissioned to decide upon the terms. In doing this Mr. Reid earned for himself the distinction of having led the way, if possible. He revived the movement, and set it going again with an impetus such that no opposition will now be able to stop. Even in what federalists hold to have been the Premier's mistake he was at least entitled to the credit of having started on such lines as to have entitled him to the respect of all provincialists. Federalists saw then, as Mr. Reid sees now, that neither the interests of Sydney nor of New South Wales were

unduly sacrificed. There would be no consideration of the interests of any one State throughout South Africa. There is a party at home that has always called for the subjugation of the Boers, and ever since Mr. Gladstone withdrew the troops successive Ministries have been girded at for punishing once for all the original sinners. Numbers of our politicians probably Ministers have been far wiser than their gratuitous advisers, and it is to be hoped that even now the attempt to gradually absorb the Boers will not be hastily abandoned at the dictates of popular passion. During the last ten years so much has been said about the evils of insatiable greed and speculation, and British diplomatic officials are probably aware that the whole South African question demands to be examined from many points of view. On each side

state divergences among the standard of living of the various colonies. Commonwealth is only to be solved by the Federal Parliament. All that the constitution could do, or that the conventions and conferences sought to do, is to lay down certain provisions making for the safety of the colonies federating. The provisions for the future of the bookkeeping system and the Bradion clause for the return of so much of the customs revenue as shall suffice for the local needs of the State. The bookkeeping system is the correlative of intercolonial freetrade, and the Bradion clause is the correlative of non-attrition. These arrangements are viewed by all parties as makeshifts. We can calculate approximately the cost of the new government proposed, but we cannot calculate at all the revenue

likely to suffer, but, on the contrary, that they must gain. The vastness of federation and the expansion that must follow. The Premier's mistake delayed the cause of union, but just as no individual public man is absolutely necessary to the movement, so it is impossible for any obstacle to long delay a consummation once fixed upon. The future, as is the accomplishment of this federal union.

The charge of inconsistency is made against the Premier because he is again on the side of the federal movement which he reviled when he passed the Enabling Act. It is a charge which has probably been made against over half the members of any vote in the past, and it is one from which politicians in the future cannot hope to be exempt. It was an imputation persistently made against Mr. Gladstone, because his active mind did not choose to

of the Transvaal borders there are considerable numbers of European, British, and, so far, these have their hands full in overcoming the natural difficulties of settlement in a new country and establishing necessary authority over the native populations. To rashly force on hostilities against the Boers might prevent the many difficulties of the Boer people, and the purview of a farseeing policy it hold should be overcome one by one. A Boer war might plunge a vast portion of South Africa into anarchy and bloodshed, and defeat for many years the consolidating process that is slowly taking place. In the future it is not unlikely that the Boers will become fused with the British-speaking and Afrikaner peoples of the Transvaal. They are a people living side by side with another that is immeasurably advanced above them by

of a uniform tariff on foreign goods, and the knowledge that the public men deputed to frame a constitution sought to establish a fair and workable modus vivendi until such time as the Federal Parliament might, by experience, be able to determine the best way to legislate for a permanent basis of finance. It is insinuated in some quarters, it is broadly asserted in others, that we shall be outwitted in the Federal Parliament by the latter and the spirit of the constitution will equally go for.

naught by reason of the needs of the underdeveloped and necessitous colonies. The world is too big for us. Are we to be represented in the future Parliament by altogether untrustworthy people? If so, it will be our own fault. Are the other colonies broken down, and are the British men hawks to which we are the pigeons?

Every intelligent critic of the constitution or of the federal idea in the abstract must admit that almost the chief difficulty of the federal idea is the political and

world's affairs, because his mental state is one of non-development and of mere stagnation. His country is not compatible with progress, and the politician without enough plasticity of mind to keep in touch with the movement of public opinion and the march of events has outlived his political usefulness. He becomes little better than a fossilised antique, and fit only for a place in a museum of extinct political types and specimen curiosities. Just now, when the political and economic situation is so

severe which seems destined to be realised one day. The Rev. John Macfarlane, a great admirer of the British Empire, and a successful conductor of many "missions" for the British Government in that country, voices this sentiment when he says, "Let our fellow-citizens in the United States of America, especially let the British House of Commons accustom itself to the thought that one day there will be an Austral Africa, as there now is an Austral Asia. It is to be hoped that a successful solution of the

to adjust the burdens, the contributions, the receipts of members of a federation that substantial justice shall be done all round, that the weakest State shall not be crushed, nor the strongest made to pay more than is just. The statesmen engaged in framing the proposed constitution shirked no labour to arrive at a workable and reasonable compromise, but one and one make two. The proposed bill shows interim arrangements, and leaves the working out of the problem to the future.

Australia are being galvanised into vigorous action by the magical touch of a national aspiration, it is hardly the case for a leading public man with ambition to do the State and the nation's good by withdrawing from active participation in affairs because he can no longer keep in step and sympathise with the march of events. This is not the case with the Hon. Mr. Hackett, who has undoubted right to recover from a temporary lapse into inconsistency has restored to the federal movement one of its

floor difficulty may yet be found, for it will help to consummate the idea thus expressed.

THE APT-REBELLING APPENDIX—An overflowing anti-bill meeting was held in the Protestant Hall last night. Sir George Dibbs was in the chair, and the speakers were Mr. J. A. Lauder, Mr. L. C. M. Picheu, Mr. T. C. O. C. In contrast with the gathering at the Melbourne Hall on Monday night, there was on this occasion, very little evidence of representative life appearing in the hall present. Admission to the hall was in the first

intelligence and common honesty of the federal representatives and need to be met on the broader franchise by every State of the Commonwealth. That is almost the only process. For the present we are arguing in the dark when we add momentum to the point, the result is the eventual burdens of our fellow-citizens. But though the question of the finances be most intricate and important, it is not the least important of Great Britain, which is at

unification of interests, in America, where there is a federation much on the lines of that we desire to bring about here, the financial question seems to be easily and even imperceptibly solved itself. Even in the decade during which the proposed arrangements continue we probably shall look back with amusement at the time when the great prophesies which wise and patriotic men uttered over the ruin of their country by federal finance.

If there is one man in the public life of Australia who may be justly regarded as the defender of himself against party attacks it is certainly Mr. Reid. The Premier's temporary absence from the colony has not shielded him from criticism of his federal administration, which he has met in a quite prepared to accept that as one of the consequences of the position he fills. But to find that does seem a trifle incongruous to certain

and, more recently, the blundering and the blunders of the Government. Undoubtedly, have exalted his estimate of his own prestige. But there are limits to everything, and again for these there have been many signs that President Kruger will be permitted to continue his abuse of power too far. Indeed, matters seem to have been ripening to a head during these last few years, and such an obvious act as the granting of a dynastic monopoly to certain English undertakings, merely be a detail in a long

ing last night. What was apparently desired was that the Premier would undertake to explain to the public the general aspects of the proposed federal compact. For the information of the public. The position which the Premier took in regard to the duties of his duty to assist in the manufacture of greatness for electorating purposes. At the same time Mr. Reid intimates that Government should be considered as a reasonable request for information which is likely to be of use to the public. For such purposes the Government should be considered as a reasonable request for information which is likely to be of use to the public. But also those of every other public reader.

and act on it twelve months ago in the federal controversy now reject it with almost ludicrous vehemence when it happens to run counter to their own federal policy. They have always agreed with Mr. Reid. When he parted company with the cause of union for a time last year, we differed from the line of policy he thought to adopt, but he recognized that the federal cause lacked a powerful ally so long as he remained recalcitrant.

That temporary aberration on Mr. Reid's part was a lapse from the federal attitude he had hitherto maintained, and it must at least be said in his favour that it was a lapse dictated by his personal view as to the best way of solving the interests of Sydney and of the colony who followed him. Reid showed so with a profound confidence in his judgment, recognizing that the Premier never gave up his claim to be regarded as a sincere federalist. It was only an aberration, and it was not the only one, and when

everything had been done that could be done from Mr. Reid's point of view to better the terms of agreement, he made no hesitation about recommending English subjects in the Transvaal are not held down by a superior force, and England certainly possesses the power to insist upon having her way in the

THE BOOKKEEPING SYSTEM.—It was contended by Dr. MacLaurin last night that the book-keeping system in the amended bill was not confined to customs and excise as it was originally;

some excitement arose on the platform. Amid tumult Mr. Hughes, M.L.A., and others, were engaged in gestulating and vociferating. This demonstration was intended to draw the widest attention to the fact that the speaker had been so violently dealt with because it was now realized that he was not an "traitor" at all, but a loyal organizer. So the organizer was hailed up on the platform again, a almost livid with rage, he was given a chair; many people commiserated with him.

After this little exhibition had taken place, illustrative of what might happen to anyone who attempted to break up the meeting, no individuals were called on to speak, and the speaker, such as

Stated before 8 o'clock Sir George Dibbs, accompanied by the Hon. Dr. MacLaurin and the Hon. E. Pilegar, mounted the platform, and was received with loud cheers. Sir George Dibbs was conducted to the chair. Among the other gentlemen who took the platform were the Hon. C. G. Heydon, Messrs. J. M. Creed, and Charles, M. L. C., Messrs. Hughes, Storey, Law, Hurley, M. L. A., Dr. Forman, Dr. W. Edward Ward, Messrs. J. R. French, T. A. Dibbs, T. M. Blattery, G. R. Campbell, Wilfrid Docker, H. Gorman, R. Wimpsey, Collins, Alfred Allen, A. B. Piddington, W. Sparks, C. M. Kay Smith, A. Geoffrey Kaye, T. J. O'Connell, and J. J. O'Connell.

The Chairman: I think you will all agree with that the action taken by Mr. Read is simply a shining of the question. (Applause.) When a body of the citizens of Sydney respectfully request your behalf, as we were entitled to ask Mr. Reid to resign his office, and to have your services to authorise those under him to supply you with all information possible, our request should have been respected. The desire has been to force this question on the colony without consideration, without reflection, and without information; and but for the action of my friends Mr. Reid, I have no doubt that this might have been done. I am sure both the gentlemen will receive a fair hearing from this meeting. (Applause.)

DR. MACLAURIN'S SPEECH.

Dr. MacLaurin, who received an ovation on rising, said: It was generally thought that when the bill was introduced it would die, and there would be an end of him. That was what we thought: year of this Federal Bill, for if ever a bill was ridden from end to end, and utterly destroyed by accurate criticism, that federal bill was such a measure—(applause)—every one of those who had been so deceived for the purposes of certain politicians (applause)—and now we have to go through the whole of the fight again. It is true that Mr. E. tells us that the bill is amended; but Mr. Barton who knows as much about it as Mr. Reid, tells us that it is not amended. It is a question of judgment Mr. Barton on this occasion is right (Applause).

A SUBSTITUTE FOR MR. COGHLEN.

The correspondence which you have just heard shows you exactly the position which the Government took up in this matter. First of all, I tried to rush this thing through in a hurry. (Of course "Yes" and "No," and howling.) The Government then said, "We will not do this. We will vote upon that measure before you really understand it throughout. (Hear, hear.) Now, when this plan has been frustrated the Government is doing best to prevent you from getting that information upon the full which you have a right to have. They are doing their best to prevent you from being subjected from giving his views on the bill to the public. (Hear, hear.) We all know what Mr. Coghlan did last year. Mr. Coghlan is no man. Mr. Coghlan is a Public servant, who year after year has been doing his duty. He has no bill so that they should not be misled. This year he is silent. That correspondence will

has just been read shows you the reason, (Hear.) It is no longer convenient for Mr. Reid, he is to carry out his little plan, to allow this national general convention to be held in New York, to permit Mr. Coghlan to give as a thorough analysis of the measure, and I know what the result would be. But as Mr. Coghlan is prevented must offer you my humble services.

THE COST OF FEDERATION.

My object in addressing you is to endeavour show you what that bill is going to cost you, (Hear.) I shall confine myself to the financial portions of the bill. There are other portions in which I am not conversant, and which my friend Mr. Pitcher will explain. You have heard that the cost of federation will be a very enormous sum, namely, 3,600 per head. That was what I said, and I said that a shilling more than that costs

show you to-night what the thing will really cost, and I shall take it from the beginning, and show all the services which the Federal Treasurer has to make good to the people of New South Wales, and the measure of its cost; to the people of Sydney and New South Wales.

EQUALISING THE DEFICIENCIES.

Now you know that the first point of this bill is that all the revenues from customs and excise are to be given to the Federal Treasurer, and all inland colonial customs are to be removed excepting in cases of Western Australia, which is allowed to retain its own customs. Now you know that the colonies of New South Wales and Victoria will also bear in mind that the colonies of Australia depend in the main on their customs and excise revenue to pay their way. If you were to take away

the customs revenue altogether—supposing for
smple that the Federal Treasurer were to keep
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very serious deficiencies, which would prevent the
from meeting their engagements, and would pre-
vent them from paying the interest on the
debts. Now I will tell you what those deficiencies
are, and must be, if we are to have no other re-
sources than such as we now possess. First, your
speeches will get them from some Conventions,
orators. (Applause and laughter.) They will get
hard bookkeeping figures. (Hear, hear.) The
deficiencies of the various colonies will be
given by the Colonies themselves. Then they will
require £1,187,000. (A voice : How do you know
that ?) That is the sum which is calculated with
wanting to New South Wales its own customs and
own revenues were taken away, and therefore, it
is the amount which is wanted for the support of
treasury of the whole nation. (Great applause)

you are giving us these as my own figures" (Oh!)
 you are not satisfied I will put you in a way of
 covering for yourselves whether they are correct
 or not. I will tell you what every man has a right
 to know. I will tell you what the figures are for
 these figures (Hear, hear.) It is all very easy
 for Mr. Reid to refuse information to Sir George
 Dibbs, but he cannot refuse it to you if you are
 for it; and if you is the exercise of your right
 of citizens of the country, so that the State
 should be able to get the information, and
 find I am not far wrong. (Hear, hear.) The
 deficiency in New South Wales will be £1,157,000.
 voice: What will they get back? I will come
 that by and bye. In Victoria
 deficiency will be £1,650,000.
 not fatigue you with the figures of the other
 colonies: but the total deficiency for the six colonies
 including Queensland, will be £5,733,000. That

the first thing that the Federal Treasurer has provided. Now, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the Government has not done this in New South Wales—(disturbance)—with a population of 1,364,000 persons will have a deficiency of £1,137,000. Victoria with a population of 1,170,000 will have a deficiency of £1,784,000. What is meaning of that? That means that Victoria is more than fifty per cent. more deficient than New South Wales. (Disturbance.) The first duty of the Government Bill must be to see that your taxation is levelled up to that of Victoria. (Clear, hear.) That is what I wish meant was he said at Summer Hill that he would all the time. (Laughter.) First of all, the taxation must be raised to the level of Victoria, and then after that we shall all be taxed alike. (Hear, hear.) New South Wales has been relieved from great deal of taxation by management of land revenue and by the taxation management of

THE FACTORS OF FEDERAL REVENUE

But even so there is a very short time in the history of the colonies so that the Federal Treasurer will be to meet a liability of £2,733,000, that is for six colonies (cheerily including Queensland). If Queensland is to be left

the deficiency will be \$4,074,000. That is the difference between the cost of the introduction of Quasimod and the revenue which it will produce. The first factor in the amount of revenue which the Federal Treasurer will be obliged to raise is the second factor in the amount of revenue which the Federal Treasurer is to raise is the expenditure upon the services which are to be transferred services. The transfer to the Federal Government of the customs, the post and telegraphs, the naval military defenses, lighthouses, ocean beacons, buoys, and the quarantine service. I shall not call the customs and excise, because that will be dealt with separately. But the other matters he must find the money for. Of course, there is a considerable revenue from the offices and telegraphs, and, by the way, you will find that you will have to contribute a good deal more to the direction, for you will not have the privilege

(Applause.) This is one of the points upon which I will be levied up to the Victorian standard. It is a considerable revenue from these, if you take the account military expenditures and the deficiencies in the account of the colonies, and the transfer of the services there will also be a considerable revenue, which will be for New South Wales £400,000, for Victoria £328,000, for Queensland, £264,000, for South Australia, £171,000, for West Australia, £161,000, and for Tasmania £23,000. These are the total deficiencies of the colonies, of which the Federal Treasury will have to contribute £1,294,000. That is for six colonies. If you add Queensland it will be £370,000. That is the second factor which the Federal Treasury has got to consider. Now, let us put these two together and we shall find that the Federal Treasury will have to contribute £1,664,000. If we take four or five colonies it will be £1,100,000.

Federal Treasurer has got to raise those same sums before he begins to spend a farthing for the purposes of the new Federal Commonwealth—upon Mr. W. H. H. in 66. (Laughter and applause.) What I have given you is not a matter of opinion at all. You must satisfy yourselves that these figures are correct if you will get the blue-books of the various colonies and study them. (Applause.)

—♦—

the A.I.C.

[illegible]

that amicable relations may prevail. Country fixtures against branch unions in New South Wales and

ing of phonology as may tend to make the rules more clear. Several alterations have been made in the rules, involving a slight departure from

* Assumed names.

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